

3.3a United States Census 1850-1940 – Knowledge Check and Lesson Review Assignment

1. Complete this sentence with the *best* answer.

Evaluating a census record . . .

- A. is a process that includes reading.
- B. is thinking deeply about the information.
- C. is using the information, or facts, to come to conclusions about the family.
- D. requires accurate name spelling to verify it is the correct family.

The correct answer is C. Evaluating a census records is using the information, or facts, to come to conclusions about the family from the known information gathered from one or many censuses.

2. Complete this sentence with the *best* answer.

When evaluating a census record it is important to . . .

- A. read the original image completely and extract the information.
- B. memorize the abbreviations.
- C. concentrate on the most recent census, it is the most important.
- D. find all the census records for a family and then begin the evaluation process.

The correct answer is A. When evaluation a census record it is important to read the original image completely and extract the information.

3. True or False

When evaluating census records, you may discover information that will give hints to help in locating additional types of records.

Answer: True

4. True or False

Finding a family in all available census records is a very good research strategy and is part of the United States research process.

Answer: True

5. True or False

Each census year asked different questions and recorded different information.

Answer: True

6. True or False

All censuses are equally important.

Answer: True

7. True or False

Census records can provide information that would help in locating a death certificate.

Answer: True

8. Multiple choice

You have conflicting birth information in two census records. What should you do?

- A. Continue with the census search and evaluate all the birth information.
- B. Conclude that you have the wrong census records.
- C. Evaluate the information from the two census records and come to a conclusion.
- D. Ignore the dates until you find the birth certificate.

The correct answer is A. Continue with the census search, noting the conflicting information in the notes. Come to a conclusion based on all the evidence.

9. Multiple choice – check all that apply

Census records can contain incorrect information. How does this happen? (check all that apply)

- A. The census taker may have misunderstood the answer.
- B. The person answering may not have known the answer to, or misunderstood the questions.
- C. The census taker skipped the house and made up the answers.
- D. The census questions may have been answered by the neighbors.
- E. All the above.

The correct answers are A, B and D.

10. Multiple choice – check all that apply

Census records are useful in United States research because: (check all that apply)

- A. Census records provide location and timeframe for a household.
- B. Census records provide clues for other record types.
- C. Census records may reveal that someone was a landowner.
- D. Census records can help in estimating birth years.
- E. All the above.

The correct answer is E. All the above.